

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10
/117 W

-----099440 271834Z /43

O R 271742Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6553
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USNMR SHAPE

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GENEVA PASS ASST SEC MAYNES AND US REPRESENTATIVE
HOROWITZ

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, PINT, UK. UR
SUBJECT: HARGREAVES GOES TO MOSCOW FOR HELP IN RE-
SOLVING ILO CRISIS

REFERENCE: LONDON 11749

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: LAST WEEKEND (JULY 23-24), ALLAN HARGREAVES, HEAD OF THE TUC INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT. FLEW TO MOSCOW FOR A MEETING WITH THE USSR WORKER REPRESENTATIVE ON THE ILO GOVERNING BODY, P. PIMENOV, IN ORDER TO SEEK SOVIET SUPPORT FOR MEASURES WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL IN KEEPING THE US IN THE ILO. WHILE HARGREAVES RECEIVED A SYMPATHETIC EAR FROM THE SOVIET OFFICIAL, PIMENOV INDICATED THAT THERE WAS LITTLE WHICH THE SOVIETS COULD DO. HE PROMISED TO CONVEY THE TUC'S CONCERNS TO HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY.

2. HARGREAVES RETURNED FROM HIS MISSION TO MOSCOW WITH THE FEELING THE PIMENOV, LIKE UK AND OTHER WESTERN EUROPEANS INVOLVED IN THE ILO, HAD FEW IDEAS ON HOW TO SALVAGE THE SITUATION IN THE ILO. PIMENOV, HOWEVER, MADE IT CLEAR TO HARGREAVES THAT THE USSR WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE THE US LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION. (A FCO SOURCE HAS INFORMED US THAT PIMENOV INDICATED TO HARGREAVES THAT THE USSR IS CONCERNED THAT IN THE EVENT THE US LEFT THE ILO IT MIGHT DECIDE TO FORM A NEW ORGANIZATION WHICH WOULD APPEAL TO WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES--A DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE A VERY NEGATIVE IMPACT ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS.)

3. PIMENOV, ACCORDING TO HARGREAVES, BLAMED THE GROUP OF 77 FOR "VOTING THE AMERICANS DOWN." THE JUNE CONFIDENTIAL

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REFERENCE, HE ADDED, PROVED THAT THE ILO WAS NOT SIMPLY RUN BY THE AMERICANS, THE EAST EUROPEANS, OR THE WESTERN EUROPEANS. IT ALSO DEMONSTRATED THAT IT WAS NOT SIMPLY GOOD ENOUGH TO OBTAIN GOVERNMENT BODY AGREEMENT, FOR DECISIONS MUST PASS THROUGH THE CONFERENCE. PIMENOV SAID THAT THE SOVIETS SINCE 1954 HAD TO LEARN TO BE REALISTIC AND TO ACCEPT DEFEAT, AND NOW IT WAS THE TURN OF THE AMERICANS--A NEW AND DIFFICULT EXPERIENCE. HE ARGUED THAT THE NEEDS OF THE LDC'S HAD TO BE DEALT WITH AND THAT WHILE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE ILO WILL NOT AFFECT THE GOVERNING BODY ROLE OF THE USSR (AS IT MIGHT THE POSITION OF THE BRITISH) THE LDC'S DEMANDS FOR CHANGE IN THIS AREA DESERVED SERIOUS ATTENTION.

4. PIMENOV CONTENDED THAT THE SOVIET UNDERSTOOD THE NATURE OF THE ILO AND ITS SPECIAL ROLE AND THAT THE USSR PRACTICED RESTRAINT IN THAT BODY. HE ASSERTED TO HARGREAVE THAT THE SOVIETS NEVER PUT FORWARD AN OVERTLY OR EXCLUSIVELY POLITICAL RESOLUTION AND HAD NO INTENTION OF DOING SO. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOVIET BEHAVIOR WAS CONDITIONED BY BROADER INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ISSUES.

INCLUDING PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS
(WHICH HE TERMED FLUCTUATING BUT SAW VALUE IN THE MOST
RECENT SPEECH BY THE PRESIDENT IN CHARLESTON).

5. PIMENOV SAID THAT THE US GOT OFF TO A FALSE START BY
ITS NOMINATION OF IRVING BROWN AS A VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE
CONFERENCE SINCE BROWN WAS A "SPECIAL MAN FROM A
SPECIAL ORGANIZATION (AFL-CIO)". HE WAS PIQUED BECAUSE
NO ONE HAD CONSULTED HIM BEFOREHAND ABOUT THE NOMINATION

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OF BROWN, THAT HE WAS CAUGHT SHORT. AND THAT HE WAS THEREFORE FORCED TO RESERVE HIS POSITION UNTIL HE COULD CONSULT. PIMENOV CLAIMED THAT WHEN THE USSR DECIDED TO SUPPORT THE CANDIDACY OF THE PANAMANIAN, THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES WERE NOT THEN AWARE THAT A (ANTI-US) CONFIDENTIAL

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RESOLUTION ON PANAMA WAS "FLOATING AROUND". HE CHARACTERIZED THE PANAMANIAN CANDIDACY AS A PROTEST VOTE, BUT WAS SURPRISED THAT THE USSR'S CHOICE RECEIVED ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF THE VOTE INSTEAD OF THE 25 PERCENT WHICH HE EXPECTED.

6. HARGREAVES HAS BEEN DOING THE RUNNING FOR THE TUC ON ILO MATTERS IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE UK WORKER DELEGATE CYRIL PLANT IS RETIRING AT THE NOVEMBER GOVERNING BODY MEETING, WHEN GLYN LLOYD WILL ASSUME THAT POSITION. (IF HARGREAVES IS GAMEFULLY TRYING, PLANT HAS GIVEN UP HOPE. HE TOLD US THAT THE US WILL LOSE ALL CREDIBILITY IF IT STAYS IN THE ORGANIZATION AFTER THE MONSTROUS "INSULT" OF THE JUNE CONFERENCE.) HARGREAVES IS EXHIBITING A REAL PASSION--VERY UNTYPICAL OF HIS NORMAL BEHAVIOR--IN HIS EFFORTS TO HELP KEEP THE US IN THE ILO. HIS HURRIED TRIP TO THE USSR IS OF COURSE A TOKEN OF HIS CONCERN. IT CAME AFTER THE UK GOVERNMENT (INCLUDING ALBERT BOOTH, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EMPLOYMENT AND JOHN GRANT, UNDER SECRETARY) MET WITH TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES (LEN MURRAY, TUC GENERAL SECRETARY AND HARGREAVES) AND CBI REPRESENTATIVES (ALLEN SWINDEN, JACK COATES) LAST WEDNESDAY (JULY 20) WITHOUT DEVELOPING ANY SIGNIFICANT PROPOSALS TO OFFER THE US AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO OUR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW FROM THE ILO. HARGREAVES DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE ILO OFFICE IN GENEVA' OR ITS DIRECTOR GENERAL FRANCOIS BLANCHARD, PROVIDES A USEFUL INSTRUMENT TO DEAL WITH THE PRESENT CRISIS. HE ALSO THINKS THAT THE OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY ARE TOO FEW AND TOO UNREPRESENTATIVE TO BE EFFECTIVE MEDIATORS. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE COUNTRIES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR HAMMERING OUT AN CONFIDENTIAL

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EFFECTIVE APPROACH.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ELAB, PINT, UK, UR, US, ILO, TUC, (HARGREAVES, ALLAN), (PIMENOV, P)
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
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